Water Noise Range, Base and Depot spares and MDL infrastructure. It also includes the cost of contract between MDL, Mumbai and M/s Armaris, France; MDL and Government of India; and Government of India and M/s MBDA, France. Transfer of the build technology would enable Indian Naval Design Team to undertake modifications/replacement of equipment from third submarine onwards. The design knowledge would also help in the indigenous design and construction of submarines planned for the second phase of 30 year submarine construction programme. French scorpene class submarines are considered to be one of the best conventional submarines in the world.

Expenditure Incurred on Indo-Sri Lanka joint patrolling

1550. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to reply to Starred Question 114 given in the Rajya Sabha on 30th November, 2005 and state:

(a) the expenditure on Indo-Sri Lanka joint patrolling;

(b) whether Government had taken precautions to avoid harassing fishermen during the patrolling; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) While answering the Starred Question No. 114 on 30.11.2005, it was mentioned that there has been no joint patrol with the Sri Lankan Navy. Therefore, the question of incurring expenditure on Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Patrolling does not arise.

(b) and (c) The Indian Navy and the Coast Guard, during patrolling, do not harass the Indian fishermen. However, the fishermen are regularly educated by these agencies not to cross the International Maritime Boundary Line to avoid apprehension by the Sri Lankan Navy.

Release on cash and rice for the flood-ravaged areas of Andhra Pradesh

1551. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH;

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh requested Union Government

to release Rs. 2479 crores and 12.74 lakh tonnes of rice as immediate relief measures for the flood-ravaged areas of Andhra Pradesh on 27th September, 2005;

(b) if so, whether it is fact that even after a lapse of more than one month neither a single Rupee nor grain had been released;

(c) whether Government would assure of releasing immediately cash and rice as sought by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, in view of the fact that more than 100 people died with heavy loss of properties; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d): The Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a memorandum seeking financial assistance of Rs. 2470.37 crore from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and 12.74 lakh tones of rice for undertaking relief operations in the areas affected by cyclonic storm/floods of September 2005. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team has visited the State w.e.f. 27th-29th September 2005 for an on the spot assessment of damage and requirements of funds. The request of the State Government, based on the report of the Central Team, alongwith the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) thereon, have been processed and is being placed before the High Level Committee (HLC) for deciding the quantum of assistance from NCCF.

Pending the consideration of the request of the State Government for Central assistance with regard to the floods of September, 2005, the Government of India has released in advance the second instalment of Central Share of CRF for the year 2005-2006 amounting to Rs. 129.03 crore on 8th November, 2005. In addition, Rs.100.00 crore has been released to the State Government on 6th December, 2005 from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) on ad-hoc basis, for undertaking necessary relief operations in the affected areas.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has also recommended for release of 1.50 Lakh MT rice to the Department of Food and Public Distribution. In this context, the Ministry of Rural Development has requested the Government of Andhra Pradesh to furnish district-wise allocations of foodgrains alongwith the notification, notifying the flood-affected areas, so as to enable them to

issue the sanction order for release of foodgrains. The State Government has furnished the district-wise allocation of foodgrains, while the relevant notification has not been made available to the Government of India.

Repeal of Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958

1552. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are in the process of seriously considering Justice Jeewan Reddy Committee recommendations to repeal the Armed Forces Special Powers Act, now in force in North Eastern States;

(b) whether to fill in the vaccum in the wake of repeal of AFSPA, Government propose to amend the Unlawful Activities Act, to provide immunity to security personnel engaged in counter-unsurgency operations in NE; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The report of the Committee headed by Justice B.P. Jeevan Peddy, former Judge of the Supreme Court of India set up by Ministry of Home Affairs to review the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 as amended in 1972 is under examination.

Domestic Violence Bill

1553. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Domestic Violence Bill will be adequate to protect our women due to the way in which Indian Criminal Justice system works;

(b) whether Government are considering to simplify the Criminal Procedure Code with a view to making it time and cost-effective especially while dispensing justice to vulnerable sections like women, children, etc.; and

(c) how many amendments have so far been made to the Indian Penal Code?